

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/707,448

Examiner

Jeffrey L. Gellner

Applicant(s)

LEE, SAN FU

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment received 1 October 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 October 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art did not disclose or suggest a device for delivering controlled amounts of water to a pet, comprising: a container having a neck and a mouth, said neck adapted to extend through said central aperture of a bowl when the container is supported in said inverted relation by said bowl in combination with a bowl defining a water-holding space, said neck adapted to extend through said central aperture when said container is supported in said inverted relation by said bowl; said central aperture adapted to seal around said neck of said container so that water flows out of said container into said bowl until water in said bowl attains a depth that closes said mouth and prevents further water from flowing into said bowl; a tray adapted to hold water secured to an exterior wall of said bowl ; a seeping chamber secured to an exterior wall of said bowl, said seeping chamber having a being contained within said tray and at least one opening formed in said seeping tray so that water seeping from said hollow interior of said seeping chamber through said at least one opening flows into said tray; a first opening formed in said exterior wall of said bowl and a second opening formed in said exterior wall of said bowl in diametrically opposed relation to said first opening ; said second opening being in fluid communication with said hollow interior of said seeping chamber, a flow control valve means having a control knob positioned on an exterior side of said side wall of said bowl; said flow control valve means having an elongate tapered control knob for conjoint rotation stem secured to said therewith, said elongate tapered stem extending through second opening and into said first opening and said hollow seeping chamber, whereby full rotation of said control knob in a first direction seals said first and second openings and so that rotation of said control knob in a

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second direction opposite to said first direction maintains said first opening in a sealed condition but opens said second opening so hollow interior that water in said reservoir flows into said of said hollow seeping chamber, whereby liquid fluid in said liquid fluid-holding reservoir is introduced into said hollow seeping chamber when said control knob is rotated in said second direction, whereby the flow rate of liquid fluid into said hollow seeping chamber is controllable by said flow control valve; and whereby the rate of flow of liquid fluid from said at least one opening formed in said seeping chamber into said liquid fluid-holding space is controllable by adjustment of said flow control valve.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

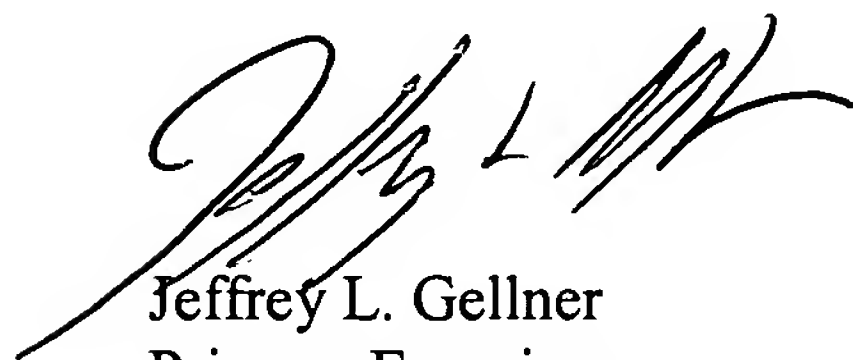
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Jeffrey L. Gellner whose phone number is 703.305.0053. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. The Examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Peter Poon, can be reached at 703.308.2574. The official fax telephone number for the Technology Center where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703.872.9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703.308.1113.



Jeffrey L. Gellner
Primary Examiner